STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN BRENDAN CARR

Re: *Protecting our Communications Networks by Promoting Transparency Regarding Foreign Adversary Control*, GN Docket No. 25-166, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (May 22, 2025).

The FCC is taking quick and early action to promote America's national security. We just voted to close a loophole in our equipment authorization process. And we are adopting a proposal now that aligns with the age old adage that sunlight is the best disinfectant.

Foreign adversaries like China are engaged in a multi-pronged effort to identify and exploit any vulnerabilities in our communications infrastructure. We have seen this at the device level with the risks posed by Huawei and ZTE. We have seen this at the carrier level with the FCC acting to deny or revoke the authorizations of providers like China Mobile and China Telecom. And we see it across our communications infrastructure with hacks and other cyber intrusions that have been tied back to China.

For our national security strategy to succeed, we must identify risks before they can be exploited. But up to now, the FCC and relevant stakeholders have had limited visibility into the ways that foreign adversaries might exert control over the entities we regulate.

Now, the FCC does collect foreign ownership information from regulated entities. But there are gaps in our information collection. Specifically, the FCC does not have a uniform approach for identifying foreign adversaries that may hold an interest in an FCC license or authorization. Nor has our approach taken into account the various ways that foreign adversaries can exercise control.

I have long believed that the FCC should publish a list of every entity with an FCC authorization or license that has sufficiently concerning ties back to a foreign adversary.[1] And I have not been alone. Indeed, just last month, the House passed a bipartisan bill from Representatives Stefanik, Wittman, Castor, Kean, and Khanna that would require the FCC to obtain and publish this information. Our partners in the Senate have acted, too, by passing Senator Fischer and Rosen's companion legislation through the Senate Commerce Committee that very same week. I applaud these bipartisan and bicameral leaders for their call to action and I am pleased that the FCC is already hitting the ground running to implement this important initiative.

With today's rulemaking, we are seeking comment on obtaining the information necessary for the FCC to publish a list of all regulated entities that are subject to the control of a foreign adversary. As we do so, we know that there are many different paths forward and the public's input will prove critical to the Commission's success. So I look forward to reviewing the record as it develops.

This item was an agency-wide effort engaging staff from seven bureaus and four offices. Thanks to Michael Scott, Matthew Gibson, Brendan Murray, Al Shuldiner, Rebecca Clinton, Michael Connelly, Carolyn Mahoney, Andrew McArdell, Allison Baker, Jodie May, Jordan Reth, Mason Shefa, Joanna Fister, Tanner Hinkle, Stacy Jordan, Mary Lovejoy, Dana Shaffer, Gabrielle Kim, Joseph Meyer, Douglas Klein, and Royce Sherlock.

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[1] *See* Statement of Commissioner Brendan Carr, *Pacific Networks Corp. and ComNet (USA) LLC,* (March 23, 2022), https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-22-22A3.pdf.